

**In the Claims:**

**Claims pending**

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-15.
- After this Response: Claims 1-15.

**Currently Amended claims:** 1, 4, 9, and 11.

**Currently Cancelled claims:** None.

**Currently Withdrawn claims:** 16-24.

**New claims:** None.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~data-structure-handling~~ process comprising:  
determining a size of a data structure;  
selecting a data streaming protocol when the size exceeds a predetermined limit;  
selecting a buffered data protocol otherwise;  
sending the data structure consistent with the selected protocol.
2. (Original) The process of claim 1, selecting a buffered data protocol further comprising serializing one or more data structures into a data transmission unit terminating with a delimiting code.

1           3.     (Original) The process of claim 1, selecting a buffered data protocol  
2 further comprising including an end of data indicator for denoting when a data  
3 transmission vehicle is no longer in use.

4  
5           4.     (Currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the sending  
6 comprises selecting a data streaming protocol further comprising streaming the data  
7 structure by:

8                 streaming a header;

9                 streaming the data structure;

10                streaming an acknowledge code.

11  
12           5.     (Original) The process of claim 1, selecting a data streaming  
13 protocol further comprising streaming the data structure by buffering a first portion  
14 of the data structure and streaming a second portion of the data structure.

15  
16           6.     (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising selecting a data  
17 transmission vehicle from a pool of available data transmission vehicles.

18  
19           7.     (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising selecting a data  
20 transmission connection from a pool of available data transmission connections  
21 using round robin selection.

22  
23           8.     (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising formatting the  
24 data structure in accordance with at least one protocol chosen from a group  
25

1 consisting of: simple mail transfer protocol, POP3, hyper text transfer protocol, file  
2 transfer protocol and transfer control protocol/Internet protocol.

3  
4 9. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1, further comprising  
5 using a data protocol transport vehicle for data transmission chosen from a group  
6 consisting of: HTTP transport, TCP transport, InterProcess Transport, InProcess  
7 Transport, SMTP transport and POP3 Transport.

8  
9 10. (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising selecting a  
10 transmission scheme chosen from a group consisting of: HTTP, SOAP.TCP,  
11 NET.TCP, MS.SOAP.XPROC, NET.IPC, MS.SOAP.INPROC,  
12 NET.INAPPDOMAIN, SOAP.MAIL, NET.MAIL and POP.

13  
14 11. (Currently amended) A system for handling messages comprising:  
15 means for determining a size of a data structure;  
16 means for selecting a data streaming protocol when the size exceeds a  
17 predetermined limit;  
18 means for selecting a buffered data protocol when the size does not exceed  
19 the predetermined limit;  
20 means for sending the data structure utilizing the selected protocol.

21  
22 12. (Original) The system of claim 11, the determining means further  
23 comparing the size to the predetermined limit.

24  
25 13. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:

1 means for prefacing the data structure with addressing information;

2 means for denoting an end-of-message.

3  
4 14. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising means for  
5 exchanging information expressive of buffer size.

6  
7 15. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:

8 means for buffering a first portion of the data structure;

9 means for streaming a second portion of the data structure.

10  
11 16. (Withdrawn) A computer readable storage medium having encoded  
12 thereon computer readable code, that, when executed by one or more processors, is  
13 configured to cause one or more processors to select a data handling vehicle based  
14 on determining availability of such chosen from a predetermined pool of data  
15 handling vehicles.

16  
17 17. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16,  
18 the computer readable code configured to cause the one or more processors to  
19 select comprising computer readable code configured to cause the one or more  
20 processors to select from amongst a pool of streaming connections and a pool of  
21 buffered connections.

22  
23 18. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16,  
24 the computer readable code configured to cause the one or more processors to  
25 select comprising computer readable code configured to cause the one or more

1 processors to select between a streaming data handling capability and a buffering  
2 data handling capability based on a size of a data structure to be handled.

3  
4 19. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16,  
5 the computer readable code configured to cause the one or more processors to  
6 select comprising computer readable code configured to cause the one or more  
7 processors to select a connection from the pool using round robin selection, and,  
8 when the pool is determined to be void of unused connections, create a connection.

9  
10 20. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16,  
11 the computer readable code being further configured to cause the one or more  
12 processors to:

13 determine a size of a data structure to be handled;  
14 compare the size to a predetermined threshold value;  
15 base a choice of data handling modalities on the size and threshold value.

16  
17 21. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of claim 16,  
18 the computer readable code being further configured to cause the one or more  
19 processors to:

20 first determine when a size of a buffered data structure exceeds a  
21 predetermined limit, and, when so, begin transmission of the buffered data  
22 structure, and, alternatively;

23 second determine when the buffered data structure is ready for  
24 transmission, and, when so, begin transmission of the buffered data structure, and,  
25 alternatively;

1        third determine when a predetermined temporal interval has passed  
2        beginning with initiation of buffering of the buffered data structure, and, when so,  
3        begin transmission of the buffered data structure;

4        iterate first, second and/or third determinations until transmission of the  
5        buffered data structure is initiated.

6  
7        22. (Withdrawn) An apparatus comprising a computer-based product  
8        that is configured to:

9        first determine when a size of a buffered data structure exceeds a  
10        predetermined limit, and, when so, begin transmission of the buffered data  
11        structure, and, alternatively;

12        second determine when the buffered data structure is ready for  
13        transmission, and, when so, begin transmission of the buffered data structure, and,  
14        alternatively;

15        third determine when a predetermined temporal interval has passed  
16        beginning with initiation of buffering of the buffered data structure, and, when so,  
17        begin transmission of the buffered data structure;

18        iterate first, second and/or third determinations until transmission of the  
19        buffered data structure is initiated.

20  
21        23. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 22, the computer-based product  
22        being configured to:

23        select a transport from among a pool of transports;

24        initiate transmission of the buffered data structure using the selected  
25        transport.

1  
2 24. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 22, the computer-based product  
3 being configured to:  
4 select a transport from among a pool of transports including InProcess,  
5 CrossProcess, HTTP, SMTP, TCP and POP3;  
6 initiate transmission of the buffered data structure using the selected  
7 transport.  
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